

NRO & NSC REVIEWS
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Security InformationPSB D-23
(Terms of Reference)TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SOUTHEAST
ASIA PLANNING PANEL

April 23, 1952

COPY NO. 43I. THE PROBLEM

To develop a national psychological strategy plan for Southeast Asia.

II. CONTINGENCY TO BE CONSIDERED

Continued deterioration of the existing situation in Southeast Asia in the absence of identifiable Communist Chinese aggression.

III. OBJECTIVE

By means of coordinated psychological operations, to assist effectively:

- A. In preventing the free countries of Southeast Asia from passing into the Communist orbit;
- B. In developing in these countries the will and ability to resist Communism from within and without and to contribute to the strengthening of the free world.

IV. PLANNING INSTRUCTIONS

Psychological strategy planning, in this case, shall:

- A. Interpret the term "Southeast Asia" to include the Philippines, Indo-China, Thailand, Burma, Malaya, and Indonesia;
- B. Examine all psychological operations applicable to achievement of the above stated objective, including those outside Southeast Asia which may be necessary for support of psychological operations in that area.
- C. Be conducted within the framework of existing United States policies and of any relevant new national policies developed under the aegis of the National Security Council.

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Page 1 of 2 Pages

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PSB D-23
(Terms of Reference)

April 23, 1952

- D. Establish for presentation to the Psychological Strategy Board an integrated program of strategic psychological courses of action to achieve the above objective - together with recommendations regarding assignment of responsibilities for execution, support, and coordination within that program.

Page 2 of 2 Pages

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SIGNATURE RECORD AND COVER SHEET

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| | 1540 APR 28 | 1600 APR 28 | | for analysis of PSB terms of reference | |
| | APR 28 1952 | | | H A N D C A R R Y | |
| | MAY 1 1952 | | | PY/POL participated in drafting terms of reference for Middle East and Southeast Asia. In both papers sufficiently broad general terms were used to permit considerable discretion to the Panel in respect of the areas covered. For example, in both papers the "will and ability" of the countries is deemed sufficiently broad to go into the economic aspects of the problems, and in the paper on Southeast Asia, Planning Instructions B were purposely phrased so as to permit consideration of all China, Formosa and Japan if necessary. All considerations will, of course, be kept within frame of existing or new national policies. Recommend approval both papers. | |
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3-4 Have notified PIRB
Determined on informal basis
that we see no objections
to terms of reference.
5. Do not believe C.P. need
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